Friendship Scans

Heart to Heart

Chapter 9

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Hyakka Ryouran Ōoku e Maki

百花繚乱 花魁絵巻

Yoshiwara Hana Oboro

よしわら花おぼろ

Chapter 9 Heart to Heart

お待たせしました
コミックス第❷巻
5月26日発売予定

①巻も絶賛発売中!

敞開的大門的前方
是如夢般的耀眼世界

Up ahead the opened gates
is like a dazzling dream world

音中さわき

*T/N Japanese idiom also used to describe someone with an open mind

YOU
IF DOING THIS

IF DOING THIS WILL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER,
THEN YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
BUT-

Rennosuke, do you really think that it's okay to do this?

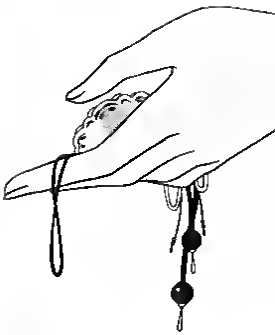
Friendship Scans
I am not Takitsuki.
!!

...IT SEEMS THAT I'VE...
...DRUNK A LITTLE TOO MUCH I APOLOGIZE
RENNOSUKE ...?
SHUTS

What's.. with this...?
clench
Tears drops
KNOWING THAT GUY ...
HE'S NEVER CARED ABOUT ME...
JUST THINKING OF IT ACTUALLY SADDENS ME...
.....
Ugh...
THIS INCIDENT MADE ME REALIZE THESE FEELINGS...
IT'S REALLY MISERABLE.

Clink
IT ACTUALLY CAME TO THE FACT THAT ...
I LOVE HIM VERY MUCH ...

WHAT EXACTLY AM I DOING?



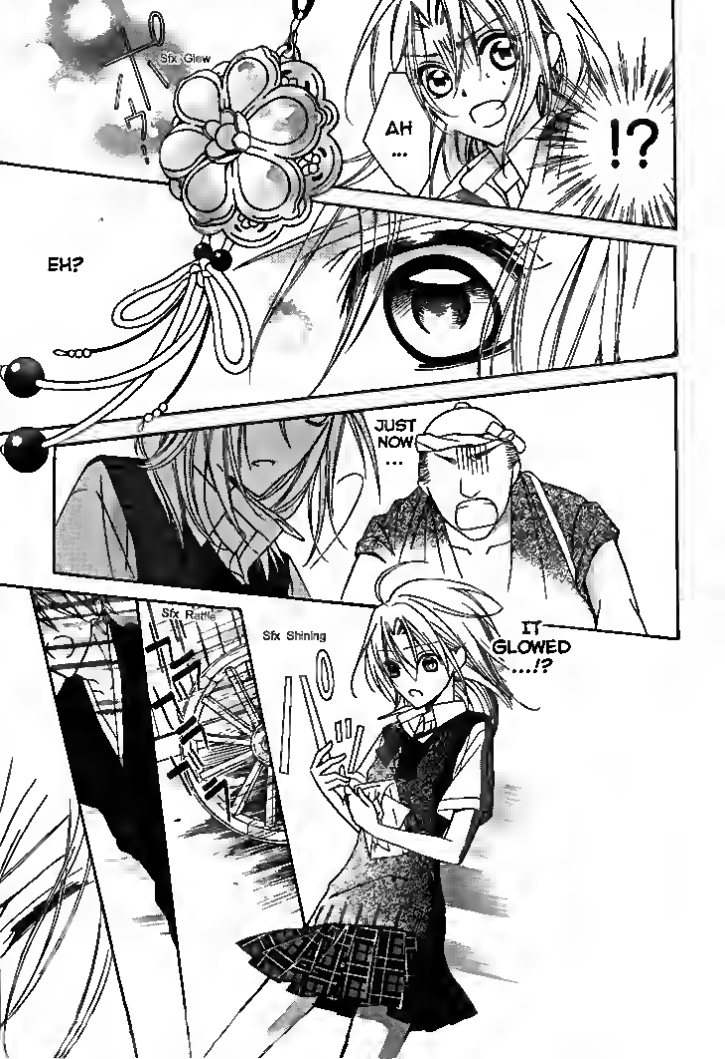
FROM THE START, RENNOSUKE AND I...

WERE JUST TWO PEOPLE, LIVING IN DIFFERENT ERAS.

I thought that by finding this, I'd be able to return!!
Sigh
BUT WHY...
HAS NOTHING HAPPENED...?
Although going on an errand is a good thing,
it'll be bad if I don't return...
What should I do...?
THE THING THAT THE OWNER REQUESTED
Sfx. Rattle
What am I supposed to do...?
IT'S ALL THIS STUPID PENDANT'S FAULT
Make way!
Make way!
AHHH! WHY'S IT SO CROWDY TODAY?
DOWN AT THE NEIGHBORING STREETS IT SEEMS THAT THE BAMBOOS NEED TO BE HAULED BUT I COULDN'T KEE IT'S FACE
BUT... I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK
WHAT... MORE... I DON'T HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO FACE RENNOSUKE

* T/N: Pendant = Strap from the previous chapter

I THOUGHT THAT AS LONG AS I REGAINED THE PENDANT, SOMETHING WOULD AT LEAST HAPPEN...
Sfx Squeeze
EVEN IF I WOULDN'T WANT TO, EVERY TIME I SEE THIS PENDANT, I'D BE REMINDED OF YESTERDAY'S INCIDENT...
STOP IT
RIGHT NOW, I SHOULD THINK OF A WAY TO GO BACK...
O!!!
THE YOUNG LADY OVER THERE!!
WAVE WAVE
Rattle
EH?
Hey, lady in strange clothing!
Can't you hear?
Sfx Rattle
DANGER!!
I'M GONNA CRASH INTO YOU!!
Shut up!


Sfx: Glow
AH ...
!?
EH?
JUST NOW ...
Sfx: Rattle
Sfx: Shining
IT GLOWED ...!?

Chatter
Chatter
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
HEY!
HNN...
Hey
What exactly were you doing...?
Do you have a death wish!?
EH!?

Sfx. Rattle
WH-WHY..?
KE... KEJI!?
YOU'RE STILL ASKING WHY? IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE ON A DAZE!!
BASTARD! WATCH OUT NEXT TIME!
DOES THAT MEAN THAT IF I WERE TO BE HIT
JUST THEN... THE PENDANT DEFINITELY GLOWED...
Sfx. Slick
ANYWAYS... THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE
EH... YES
Sorry
OU-CH...
I'LL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO MY OWN WORLD...!?
KEJI!?
Sfx. Throb
No
...WHAT SHOULD I DO...
IT'S NOTH-ING
WH-WHATS WRONG!?
ARE YOU OKAY!?
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.
YOUR HAND'S ALL RED!!
HOW COULD THIS BE NOTHING?!
Friendship Scans

WHENEVER I'M IN DANGER...
WOULD IT GLOW...?
THAT'S RIGHT! IT MUST BE, BE-CAUSE...!
I WAS NEARLY HIT BY A CAR WHEN I CAME TO YOSHIWARA AT THAT MOMENT, THIS // GLOWED.
THANK YOU.
I SAID I'M FINE
HERE'S THE PEN-DANT. DON'T DROP IT NOW
...IF JUST NOW WASN'T MY MISCON-CEPTION, THEN
COULD IT BE... (THAT THIS...?
AH.
IF IT'S REALLY LIKE THIS...
THEN I ONLY NEED TO ATTEMPT THE SAME SITU-ATION AGAIN...
SAY
HEY HANA!!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? SINCE EARLIER ON, YOU SEEM TO LOOK OUT OF IT!
DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU'LL FAINT LIKE LAST TIME ARE YOU UNWELL?
Eh!?
th-that's not it!

You always make people worried
Quickly, get on. I'll carry you back. Go back and have a rest for today.
Eh...
I don't want to see Rennosuke's face...
Ah
Six Fwip
Suddenly
Let me do this! Where do you need this delivered to!?
Really, it's okay!! Moreover, I'm responsible for your injured hand
Hnn? Yeah, but it's not that urgent.
You're supposed to deliver this Hwa bag, right?
Besides, aren't you busy as well?
Th there's no need for this!!!
If it's a piggy-back ride, then I lift ass
Wait a minute, I can't let you do this
That place isn't a location fit for you...
In any case, I don't want to return back right now...
I beg of you!!
At least I have an inkling on how to go back...
Afterwards, I'll try it out again, once I get the chance.

* T/N Kashi mise = Moatside brothels, where lowest ranking prostitutes work

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
!
AH, AHAHAHA!
Y-YOU SEE, IT'S SUCH A NICE WEATHER
SO I'D LIKE TO TAKE A STROLL OUTSIDE
LET'S GO, THEN!!
.....
I UNDER-STAND BUT WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE COMING HERE ?
AHH.
RIGHT, YOU DON'T KNOW ME!
MY SISTER AND I WERE BROUGHT UP FROM THIS DISTRICT
THERE'S A GRANNY THERE, WHO ALWAYS TOOK CARE OF US AS A CHILD
IT'S WHY I OFTEN COME HERE TO VISIT
THIS ENTIRE AREA IS SUR-ROUNDED BY THE *KASHI MISE
THERE-FORE, DON'T LEAVE MY SIDE, IT'LL BE DANG-EROUS

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
ALTHOUGH THIS PLACE IS LOCATED IN YOSHIWARA, IT'S QUITE DIFFERENT TO THE MAIN STREET
OIYA...
WELL IF IT ISN'T KEJI!!
IT'S A LOT WORSE IN COMPARISON.
GRANNY, HOW ARE YOU NOWADAYS!?
OH YOU BROUGHT ALONG A PERSON?
YOU ARE AT THE AGE...
I'm TELLING YOU IT'S NOT...
THIS CHILD WORKS AT THE SAME PLACE AS ME
HE-HELLO
IT'S NOT GOOD TO BRING HER TO THIS KIND OF PLACE
IF YOU'RE ON A DATE, THEN GO ELSEWHERE
HOHOHO!
I TOLD YOU, IT'S NOT-
I KNOW, WE'LL HEAD BACK SOON
THIS IS FOR YOU SISTER PACKED SOME NUTRITIOUS FOOD
SERIOUSLY
I SAID THAT THERE IS NO NEED
THAT CHILD'S SUCH A WORRY-WART
WHY BOTHER YOURSELVES WITH AN OLD GEEZER LIKE ME AS LONG AS AKARI TAKES GOOD CARE OF HERSELF, THEN IT'S FINE ENOUGH
HONESTLY
Sfx Thwack
DOING THESE THINGS, IF YOU WERE TO KICK THE BUCKET BEFORE THIS OLD GEEZER, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I WON'T...
HAHA!
REALLY,
YOU'RE BOTH COMPETENT
COMPARED TO THE TWO OF YOU...

MURASAKI CAME HERE YESTERDAY
!?
MURASAKI-SAN!?
SHE WAS HERE!?
I KNEW THAT SHE'D COME OVER TO THE KASHI MISE SO IS SHE HERE?
YES
JUST NEXT DOOR BY THE SECOND ROOM
LISTEN MURASAKI SAN,
DON'T DRINK ANYMORE DRINKING TOO MUCH IS HARMFUL TO THE BODY
Shut up!!
FROM THE WAY SHE IS NOW...
IT'S A VERY PITIFUL SIGHT.

SINCE WHEN DID SHE START TO BECOME LIKE THIS?
IN THE PAST, SHE WAS CLEARLY A SMART AND BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.
ALTHOUGH EVERY CUSTOMER WOULD SAY THAT THEY'D HELP HER PAY THE RANSOM,
IN REALITY, NO ONE IS WILLING TO DO SO.
THERE WAS EVEN A CUSTOMER WHO SWORE TO WAIT UNTIL HER CONTRACT EXPIRED AND PROMISED TO BE TOGETHER.
SHE WAS ORIGINALLY EVERYONE'S SUBJECT OF ENVY, A PROMINENT COURTESAN.
AFTER GOING THROUGH THIS ORDEAL REPEATEDLY,
SHE BECAME THE WAY SHE IS NOW. IT WAS TOO MUCH FOR HER TO ENDURE.
IT'S NATURAL TO FEEL PAIN AND BITTERNESS FROM BEING BETRAYED.
NO MATTER HOW SHE PUTS UP A BRAVE FRONT, EVEN AS A JORO,* HER HEART IS ONLY THAT OF AN ORDINARY WOMAN.
THAT MAN WAS ALSO NO EXCEPTION.

* T/N Joro = Courtesan

I'LL DIE HERE EITHER WAY!!
LEAVE ME ALONE!!
NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE
MURA SAKI-SAN...
YOUNG LADY, LET'S LEAVE
THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO FOR HER
JUST LET HER BE.
KEJI,
I MAY BE A BUSY BODY, BUT YOU SHOULD ALSO TAKE GOOD CARE OF AKARI.
IT'LL BE TROUBLE-SOME, IF A COURTESAN WOULD HAVE AN RELATIONSHIP WITH A CUSTOMER.
EH, EH
...I GOT IT.

KEJI
AT THAT TIME...
HE WAS ANGRY OF THE AFFAIR CONCERNING KOMICHI SAN AND AKARI SAN...
THAT PERSON IS A CRUEL MAN...
KEJI ...?
HUH?
BECAUSE HE KNOWS WHAT A MISERABLE LOOK OF A COURTESAN IS LIKE.
LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A PAIR OF PEEPING TOMS
EVEN AKARI SAN APPEARS TO BE SMILING HAPPILY...
AS LONG AS THIS PLACE IS YOSHI-WARA
KEJI HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO REMAIN SILENT.
IF SUCH THINGS WERE TO BE KNOWN
SISTER WOULD BE FORCED TO GO TO A KASHI MISE WHILE AS FOR KOMICHI SAN, HE'LL PROBABLY BE EXILED FROM YOSHIWARA
HUH?
THE CONSE-QUENCE OF A ROMANTIC RELATION-SHIP WITH A CUSTOMER IS MUCH WORSE
AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, LOVE IS PROHIBITED.
WELL ISN'T THAT EXPECTED. A LOVE BETWEEN A COURTESAN AND A MAN WILL ONLY BRING PAIN

IF THINGS WERE TO TURN OUT THAT WAY..
IT'LL BE UNBEARABLE TO WITNESS
YOSHIWARA ISN'T A PLACE FOR ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS,
REGARDLESS OF HOW THEY STRUGGLE, AT THE END, THEY'LL ONLY FALL ON THE BOTTOMLESS PITS OF HELL.
ALTHOUGH, I DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND...
KARI SAN
AND KIYOMASA SAN, WHO CAME CHASING AFTER TAKITSUKI SAN...

THE ANXIETY TO NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE DREAMS A REALITY...
THIS SENTI-MENT...
I MORE OR LESS UNDERSTAND A LITTLE...
Friendship Scars
RENNO-SUKE, HE'S SUFFER-ING...
A DEEP PAIN IN HIS HEART LIKE THIS...

THAT TIME-
HE REVEALED A SEEMINGLY PAINFUL FACE FOR A MOMENT...
EVEN THE THOUGHT OF HIS EXPRESSION MAKES ME FEEL PAIN...
!?
OH NO! WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT, I'VE ALREADY ARRIVED AT THE STORE ENTRANCE!!
HANA?
AH.
WHAT?
I NEED TO PREPARE DINNER, SO I'LL BE RETURNING TO THE STORE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU...?

T/N:On the entrance Shiromatsuya = Shiromatsu Inn

I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GO BACK IF I ACT IN ACCORDANCE TO MY HYPOTHESIS. HOWEVER, NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO TEST IT OUT.
BUT IF I GO BACK NOW, I'LL BE FACING RENNOSUKE.
I. THINK..
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
HANA
CAN YOU HELP ME BUY THE COOKING INGREDIENTS?
EH?
IT'S DANGEROUS OUTSIDE, SO MAKE SURE TO RETURN BEFORE SUNSET
KE KEJI?
C'MON, HURRY UP!
I'LL HELP BRING YOUR ITEM BACK TO THE STORE
DID HE DELIBERATELY ARRANGE THIS, BECAUSE HE NOTICED...?
UN.
UNG

HUH?
Sfx. Clatter
Sfx. Throbs
Uh-oh
HEY KEJI
HM?
UNG
YOUR HAND... ISN'T IT SWOLLEN...?
Friendship Scans
SIGH...
MAN, I'M WORN OUT.
DUE TO TODAY'S PARADE, IT ATTRACTED A LOT OF CUSTOMERS
WELL, THAT SUMS UP TODAY'S WORK
I'LL CALL FOR SOMEONE TO SERVE DINNER!
Tok Tok
Sigh

Turns over
Slides
Sighs
AH... THANKS FOR THE TROUBLE
.....
YESTER-DAY WAS...
.....
REALLY BAD...
I DIDN'T THINK...!
THAT SHE WOULD... ACTUALLY CRY LIKE THIS...
Kennosuke, do you really... think that it's okay doing this...?

I CAN'T ERASE IT FROM MY MIND!
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
THAT FELLOW ...
LOOKED AT ME STRAIGHT IN THE EYES...
Slides
Sfx: Whack
!?
Turns Suddenly
WHAT'S THAT...?
!
HANA ...?

..WHY IS IT YOU...?
WHERE'S KEJI..?
.....
Clatter
HURRY HURRY
KEJI..
HIS HAND IS INJURED SO I'LL BE SERVING DINNER IN HIS STEAD.
WHEN YOU'RE DONE EATING, LEAVE THE DISHES AT THE SIDE
I'LL BE BACK TO COLLECT IT

Tap
Friendship Scans
I
Sorry.

YEST-
ERDAY,
I
WASN'T
MYSELF.
...NOT
YOUR-
SELF?
Hm?
RENNOSUKE
IS SLY.
Hmmph...
.....
SHOWING
ME THAT
KIND OF
EXPRES-
SION...
I COULDN'T
SAY ANY-
THING.

IF THIS CONTINUES, I WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE-FORWARD!
I MUST ASK RENNOSUKE HIS FEELINGS...
IF YOU WANT ME TO FORGIVE YOU, THEN ANSWER THIS QUESTION
LET'S PUT AN END TO THIS!
RENNOSUKE
...DO YOU LOVE TAKITSUKI SAN?
つづく★ To Be Continued...

Friendship Scans

Innocence

Chapter 10

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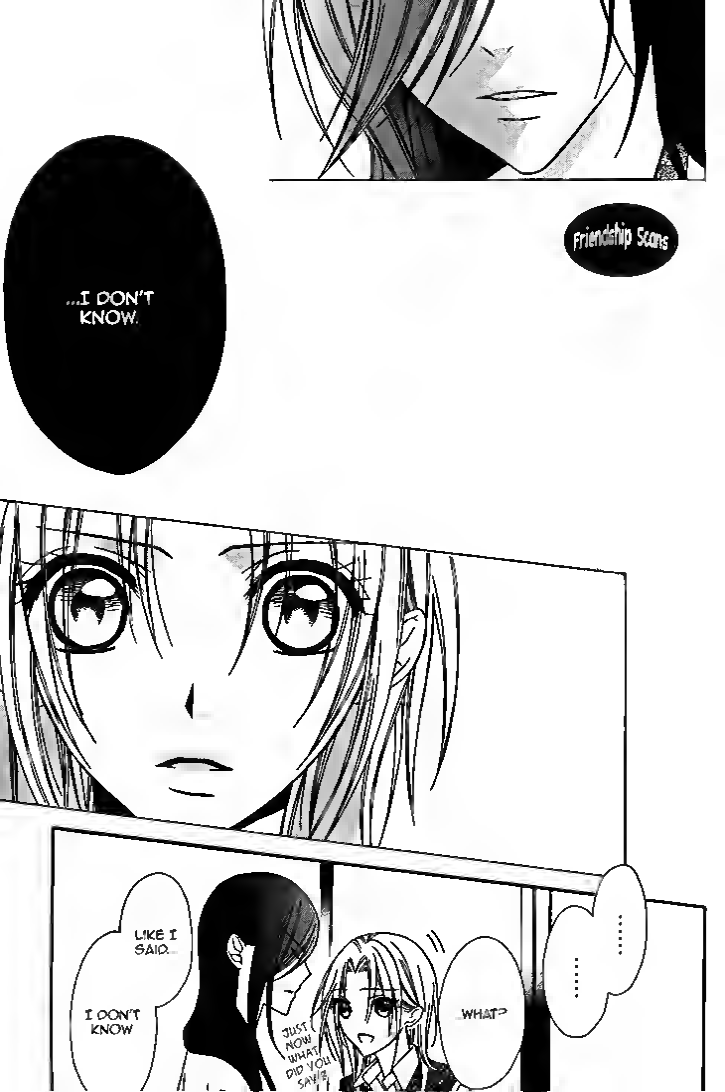
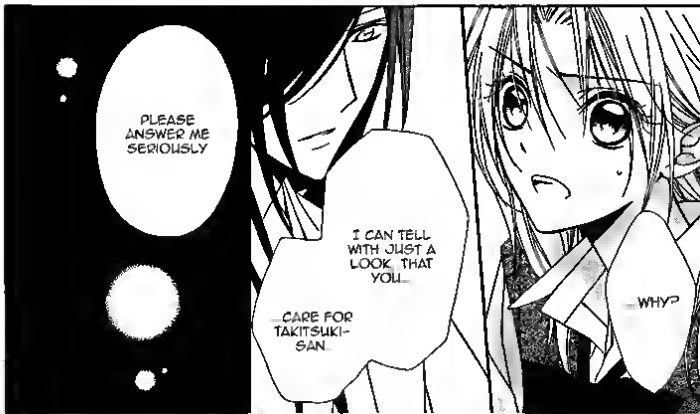
Are these harboured feelings of longing, or love?
よしわら花おぼろ
Chapter 10:
Innocence

I MUST ASK RENNOSUKE HIS FEELINGS...
DO YOU...
...LOVE TAKITSUKI-SAN?
THEN EVERYTHING WILL COME TO AN END.


...I DON'T KNOW.
.....
.....
WHAT?
JUST NOW WHAT DID YOU SAY?
LIKE I SAID...
I DON'T KNOW

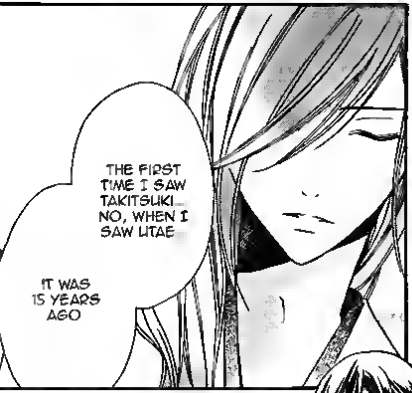
HA..?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "I DON'T KNOW"?
.....
THE MEANING IS LITERALLY WHAT IT MEANS.

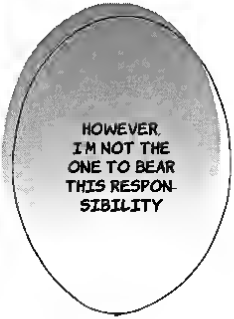

WHY?
PLEASE ANSWER ME SERIOUSLY
I CAN TELL WITH JUST A LOOK THAT YOU...
...CARE FOR TAKITSUKI-SAN.

That kind of answer
is un-acceptable.
.....
UNAC-CEPTABLE, AS IN...?
If you don't make yourself clear
I'll tell Tatetsuki-san that you attacked me!
Quickly now, come and confess here
Pat!
.....

IN THE END, I REALLY WANT TO KNOW.
EVEN I MYSELF FEEL THAT WHAT I'M DOING IS HARSH...
BEFORE I SEVER THESE FEELINGS,
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HE FEELS!
...I ADMIT THAT EVEN NOW,
I STILL CARE ABOUT TAKITSUKI.
AS LONG AS IT'S FOR HER HAPPINESS
I'LL DO ANYTHING

Friendship Scans





THAT TIME, I WAS THE SECOND SON OF THE KYOMATSUYA.
IT WAS ALREADY DECIDED
THAT I WOULD BECOME THE SON-IN-LAW OF THE UTAE FAMILY
T/N KYOMATSUYA = KYOMATSU HOUSE

DON
RETURN AT ONCE!
MY FAMILY DIDN'T ACKNOWLEDGE THE ENGAGEMENT...
HEY, UTAE
Utae's mother
THIS WAS DECIDED BY FATHER HIMSELF.
WHAT AN ASSERTIVE WOMAN...
HO HO HO
MY FIRST IMPRESSION OF HER WASN'T VERY GOOD...
Smiles
NO, IT'S FINE
I DON'T MIND IT AT ALL
I'M SORRY FOR THAT, PLEASE EXCUSE HER MANNERS

THEREFORE, I WAS AN ARROGANT KID WHO COULD READ SOCIAL CUES; KNOWING WHEN TO SPEAK THE TRUTH AND WHEN TO SPEAK CIVILITY.
...PROBABLY HAPPENED BECAUSE I WAS SLIGHTLY SMARTER.
THE ME AT THAT TIME...
TAKE
HUH
BEING THE SECOND SON, IT WAS MANDATORY FOR ME TO BE CAUTIOUS ON HOW I CONDUCTED MY WORDS AND ACTIONS.
I KNOW THAT YOU ARE CAPABLE.
HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OF THE ELDEST SON'S
AT HOME, I WAS ALSO THE SAME
IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ACT MY AGE...
HOW CUTE
I AS WELL
FIND THIS GIRL WITH A SEEMINGLY STRONG PERSONALITY AS A NUI
SMILES
THIS IS ALSO A FORM OF A SURVIVAL SKILL.

GRADUALLY, I BECAME UNABLE TO HONESTLY EXPRESS MY THOUGHTS.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHEN I STARTED TO REALIZE MY TRUE FEELINGS ..
.....
Friendship Scans
GRAB'S
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
!?
JUST NOW WEREN'T YOU THINKING THAT
I AS WELL FIND THIS GIRL WITH A SEEMINGLY STRONG PERSONALITY AS A NUI SANCE"?
I ONLY HAVE TO LOOK AT A PERSON S FACE.
TO KNOW WHAT THEY RE THINKING
WH-WHAT!?
!

DON'T USE SUCH AN UNSIGHTLY SMILE.
IF YOU THOUGHT THAT THIS WOULD WORK ON ME, THEN YOU'RE COMPLETELY MISTAKEN!!
I FELT SHOCK FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
I CLEARLY HID MY REAL THOUGHTS COM-PLETELY.
YET, ONLY UTAE NOTICED.

IN FRONT OF UTAE-
JUST BEING BY HER SIDE, I WAS ABLE TO SHOW MY TRUE SELF.
IN MY HEART, UTAE HAD BECOME THAT KIND OF EXISTENCE.
...I CANNOT HIDE ANY-THING.
WHENEVER IT CAME TO QUARRELLING, I NEVER ONCE WON AGAINST HER. IT MADE ME SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATED.
YOU'RE TOO WEAK!
DAMN YOU
FROM THE START, SHE WAS A GIRL WHO WAS OUTSPOKEN AND VIOLENT.
THAT WAS WHAT I HOPED FOR.
THOUGH I HOPED THAT ONE DAY, I'D BE ABLE TO BE FOREVER BESIDE HER.

MAN, THIS PISSES ME OFF!
BUT THEN
REALLY NOW!
WHY DO THOSE BUSHI ACT ALL SMUG?
HEY NOW
THAT'S HOW IT IS FOR US ORDINARY MERCHANTS FROM KYOYASHIKI
PROBABLY BECAUSE OF THIS THAT I HATE HELPING OUT IN THE STORE!
Hmm?
WHAT A SURPRISE!
YOU'RE VERY FRANK.
Hehe
THAT
THAT I'M SORRY, THIS PERSON TENDS TO BE OUTSPOKEN
EXACTLY, IF THE DANNA SAMA HERE OVERHEARS
SHE MIGHT SCOLD YOU FOR BEING SUCH AN ARROGANT LITTLE GIRL AND CUT YOU DOWN WITH A SINGLE ORDER
ON THAT DAY, WE MET KIYOMASA.
I HEARD THAT THE PEOPLE OF KYOTO ARE RELATIVELY HEADSTRONG
DOES THIS ALSO APPLY TO WOMEN?
I AM ONLY SPEAKING MY MIND
IF YOU'RE DISCONTENTED, WAKAOANNA SAMA, THEN YOU CAN ALSO DO THE SAME

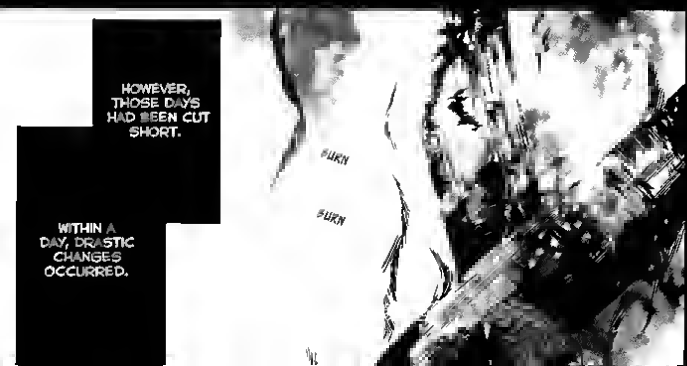
WHY?
I LIKE PEOPLE LIKE YOU.
HE WAS OBVIOUSLY THE SON OF A DAIMYO WHO RESIDES IN KYOYASHIKI, BUT HE'S VERY FRIENDLY.
UNLIKE ME, HE'S A VERY DIRECT BOY FROM INSIDE AND OUT.
WHERE ARE YOU GUYS FROM?
WAH! IT'S DIFFERENT FROM KING RYUJI. HE'S REALLY HARD TO DEAL WITH!
I COULDN'T STAND HIS STRAIGHT-FORWARDNESS FROM THE BEGINNING.
WAIT—
YOU SNUCK OUT FROM HOME AGAIN!?
COMPARED TO STAYING HOME PLAYING WITH RENNOSUKE IS MUCH MORE FUN!
YEAH!
BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I FELT HAPPY OVER KIYOMASA'S FRANK ATTITUDE.
HA!?

I DIDN'T KNOW WHEN I BEGAN TO SENSE
HONESTLY, WHAT WERE YOU DOING?
OH, IT'S UTAE.
UTAE IS ALSO SIMILAR IN THAT ASPECT.
THAT THE TWO WERE MUTUALLY ATTRACTED TO EACH OTHER.
I GUESS IT'S NOT A BAD THING..
BUT UNDER THIS SORT OF CIRCUMSTANCES .. WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THIS MATTER ....
MAKES ME FALTER.
UTAE AND KIYOMASA ARE DIFFERENT IN STATUS, SO THEY CAN'T BE TOGETHER

I DON'T WANT TO BREAK REALITY...
...AND HURT THE TWO OF THEM.
IF YOU DON'T HURRY UP WE'LL LEAVE YOU BEHIND!
HEY RENNOSUKE...
THE TWO OF THEM SHOULD UNDERSTAND BY NOW.
THE FEELINGS OF THE THREE OF US TOGETHER WEREN'T SO BAD.
MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT WAS UTAE...
AS LONG AS
I TAKE ON THE RESPONSIBILITY TO SUPPORT UTAE, THEN IT'LL BE OKAY.
BECAUSE THERE IS NO WAY FOR THIS RELATIONSHIP TO LAST LONG.
IN FRONT OF KIYO-
SHE SHOWED A SMILING FACE WHICH I NEVER SAW BEFORE.

UNTIL THAT DAY
KIYO-MASA...?
WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT?
OH, IT'S NOTHING.
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR. I JUST THOUGHT THAT THIS LOOKED PRETTY, SO I KEPT LOOKING AT IT.
AS FOR THEIR FEELINGS...
.....
LET'S GO HOME, NOBUSUKE.

I PRETENDED NOT TO NOTICE IT.



Friendship Scans
UTAE'S HOUSE WAS COMPLETELY BURNED DOWN.
YOU'RE GOING TO YOSHIWARA? IS THAT TRUE!?
WHY SO SUDDEN!?
WHY ? THIS IS INEVITABLE
WHETHER IT IS MY HOUSE OR MY FAMILY,
EVERYTHING WAS BURNED TO THE GROUND.
MOREOVER, WE HAVE A LOT OF DEBTS.
I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE THE KYOMATSU FAMILY BY HAVING THEM TAKE CARE OF ME
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOULDER EVERYTHING ALONE!
WHY

I KNOW THAT I'M UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
THIS ISN'T SOMETHING THAT WE CAN CONTROL.
DON'T SAY ANYMORE.
THERE'S NO NEED TO TELL HIM.
.....
KIYOMASA... DOES HE KNOW ABOUT THIS?
.....
I FELT RESENTMENT TO MYSELF FOR BEING POWERLESS.
YOUNG MISS, IT'S ABOUT TIME WE DEPART.
ALRIGHT.
APART FROM THAT,
I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING ELSE
WELL THEN,
TAKE CARE.

待續 ★ To Be Continued...

Friendship Scans

Rise and Fall

Chapter 11

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単行本
コミックス第①・②巻
絶賛発売中!

CHAPTER 11
RISE AND FALL

音花繚乱 花魁絵巻

よしわら花おぼろ

音中さわき

The more I understand you

the more I can't stop
this feeling

Kiyomasa
!
WHO CAN QUICKLY STOP...
UTAE FROM LEAVING?
Utae!!
Pant
Why didn't you tell me?
Rennosuke.. Utae...
BURNS HOMES
Quickly, go back home...
This has nothing to do with you.

PIERCING
SHOCKED
SORRY TO HAVE MADE YOU WAIT
LET'S GO
Utae!?
Utae, wait!!
You can't go!
Don't touch me!
Friendship Scans

This is the path I chose!!
Playing this game with a young master like you, who doesn't even know the hardships of the life
is getting tiring. This is just about right.
THE REASON SHE SAID
SUCH THINGS... I UNDERSTOOD IT STRAIGHT AWAY...
UTAE-
EVEN IF HER HOUSE WAS BURNT, EVEN IF SHE LOST HER FAMILY, SHE WON'T SHED A SINGLE TEAR IN FRONT OF ANYONE.
UTAE HATES FOR HER WEAK SIDE TO BE SEEN BY OTHER PEOPLE.
Enough!
DON'T HINDER ME ANY-MORE...
IN FRONT OF KIYOMASA, SHE COULDN'T DO IT.

SORRY..
I DIDN'T MEAN TO CAUSE YOU PAIN.
SO..
JUST THIS...
CAN YOU ACCEPT IT?
A HAIR-PIN...?
BUT...
I THINK THAT THERE WILL ALSO BE TIMES, WHEN YOU WILL FIND IT HARD
YOU'RE A STRONG GIRL, UTAE
EVEN IF YOU GO TO YOSHIWARA, YOU'LL BE FINE
AS TIME WILL PASS BY... TAKE A LOOK AT THIS AND RECALL THAT
THERE IS STILL SOMEONE WHO WILL ALWAYS THINK OF YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF HIS HEART.

THE PERSON MEANT FOR UTAE'S SIDE, WASN'T ME.
IT WAS ALREADY CLEAR FROM THIS POINT.
COULDN'T DO ANYTHING.
BASICALLY, THESE FEELINGS HAVE ALWAYS LINGERED DEEP INSIDE, EVEN UNTIL TODAY
PRETENDING TO HAVE NOT NOTICED BOTH OF THEIR FEELINGS
WAS BECAUSE I HOPED THAT ONE DAY, I CAN ALSO BECOME UTAE'S SUPPORT.
BUT I...
BUT TO UTAE, THE NEED FOR SOMEONE TO SUPPORT HER...
IS ONLY "NOW."

ARE YOU SATISFIED?
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
THAT'S HOW IT IS
IS THAT SO..
.....
THE REASON WHY KENNOSUKE DIDN'T FACE HIS FEELINGS FOR YUTAE
WAS BECAUSE HE KNEW THAT THERE WAS NO WAY FOR THEM TO BE CONVEYED PROPERLY...
Why are you crying!?
Tears

I'M SORRY
I DION'T MEAN TO HAVE YOU SPEAK OF SUCH THINGS
BEING FORCED TO BRING OUT SUCH PAINFUL MEMORIES
IF IT'S MY CURRENT SELF, THEN I UNDER-STAND AS WELL
HIS FEELINGS WILL CAUSE TAKITSUKI-SAN AND THE OTHERS TO FEEL TROU-BLED
SO HE ABSO-LUTELY WON'T SAY IT.
I'S OKAY
THERE'S NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE
AND-
EVEN THOUGH THAT IT'S THE FIRST TIME FOR ME TO MENTION THIS TO ANYONE.
IT FELT THAT I WAS ABLE TO SOMEWHAT SORT OUT
MY OWN FEELINGS..

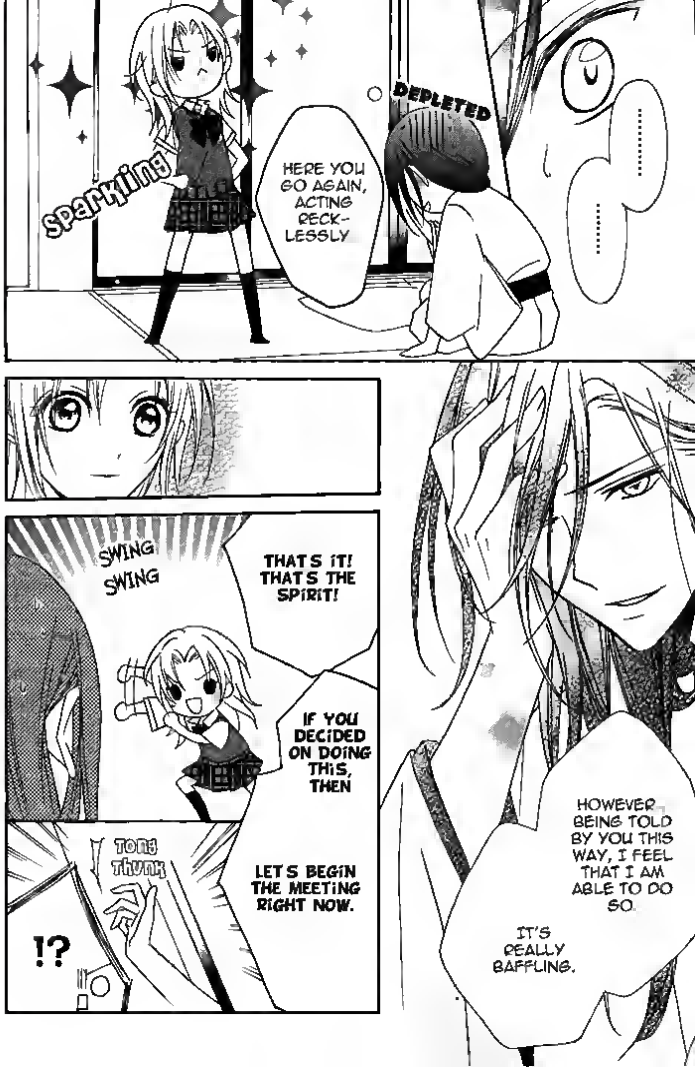
IT APPEARS SO THAT THIS HAS AFFECTED ME GREATLY... MORE THAN I'VE IMAGINED.
SINCE CHILDHOOD, THE LONGING I HOLD FOR TAKITSUKI,
AND MY OWN ANXIETY OF NOT BEING ABLE TO DO ANYTHING...
THESE HAVE ALL AFFECTED ME MORE THAN I EVER THOUGHT... TILL NOW...IT IS MORE PROFOUND.
RENNOSUKE.
Friendship Scans
BAKUFU (SHOGUNATE)
JAPANESE FEUDAL GOVERNMENT HEADED BY A SHOGUN
AS OF NOW, KIYOMASA WOULD EVEN RESORT TO OPPOSING THE BAKUFU TO COME SEE TAKITSUKI.
I WOULD WANT TO TRY AND MAKE IT HAPPEN.
IF THERE'S A WAY FOR ME TO HELP TAKITSUKI SAN AND KIYOMASA TO BE TOGETHER, THEN-
IF NOW...

Flash back: Reference to chapter 8 page 31
IT'S PRECISELY FOR THE SAKE OF KIYOMASA, THAT TAKITSUKI
WOULD OPT FOR THIS METHOD TO DRIVE AWAY KIYOMASA, WHO CAME HERE TO YOSHIWARA.
IN ORDER FOR KIYOMASA, THE SON OF A DAIMYO
TO NOT COME TO YOSHIWARA AS HE PLEASES...
SO IT'S LIKE THIS
BECAUSE THE DAIMYOS ARE BANNED FROM COMING IN YOSHIWARA,
WOULD IT BE DIFFICULT FOR THOSE TWO BE TOGETHER?
IT IS REALLY IN LINE WITH TAKITSUKI'S WAY OF DOING THINGS
IF IT'S BEFORE
KIYOMASA IS ABLE TO PAY A RANSOM FOR TAKITSUKI
HOWEVER, IF SOMEONE KNEW THAT HE WENT TO YOSHIWARA, THERE'S A CHANCE THAT HE'LL BE STRIPPED OF FROM HIS STATUS AS AN HEIR, AND WILL HAVE TO FORFEIT THE RIGHTS TO INHERIT HIS FAMILY'S PROPERTIES
PAY A RANSOM - CUSTOMERS PAY FOR THE GEISHA'S FEES AND DEBT BEFORE THE CONTRACT DEADLINE IN ORDER FOR THEM TO STOP DOING THIS KIND OF WORK (GAIN FREEDOM)

I ALSO WANT TO DO SOMETHING FOR THEM...
THOUGH I AM STILL THE SAME AS BEFORE, UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING...
TO RENNOSUKE...
MAYBE FOR KIYOMASA, IT DOESN'T MATTER, BUT TAKITSUKI SAN IS A TAYUU, THEREFORE IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO "ESCAPE"
IF SHE GETS CAUGHT, THEN SHE'LL MOST LIKELY SUFFER A PAINFUL PUNISHMENT, MUCH WORSE THAN DEATH
NO MATTER WHAT HAS BECOME OF TAKITSUKI-
SHE IS AN IMPORTANT EXISTENCE
PINCH
IF IT'S LIKE THIS, THEN I...
I couldn't care less about the Edo regulations!!

Whether it's the Yoshiwara's prohibition or the Bakufu's order's-
To me, those are all nonsense!
Non Nonsen
Understand!?
From here on in the future, as long as both sides
share a mutual feeling, then it'll be enough.
Rennosuke's problem is-
As small as a grain of rice!!

RENNOSUKE, WHO'S LOOKING LIKE THIS
I WANT TO HELP!
If Rennosuke wants to do something for Takitsuki san
I believe that it can be done.
So don't show that kind of expression.
It doesn't suit Rennosuke at all.
Before giving up, always try first!
I'll help as well!!


sparkling
HERE YOU GO AGAIN, ACTING RECK-LESSLY
DEPLETED
.....
.....
SWING SWING
THAT'S IT! THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
IF YOU DECIDED ON DOING THIS, THEN
LET'S BEGIN THE MEETING RIGHT NOW.
TONG THUNK
!?
HOWEVER BEING TOLD BY YOU THIS WAY, I FEEL THAT I AM ABLE TO DO SO.
IT'S REALLY BAFFLING.

Ow...
It really hurts!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SORRY...
I WAS A LITTLE OVER EXCITED.
GIVE ME YOUR HAND
LET ME TAKE A LOOK
Ah...
It's bleeding...
SUCKS
Friendship Scars

Hit's head
WAIT...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
OUCH!
GRIPS...
YOU'RE REALLY A STRANGE GIRL
ANY OTHER GIRL WOULD HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY HAPPY TO HAVE ME GO THIS FAR WITH THEM
IF IT'S SOMEONE ELSE, THEN THERE IS NO MEANING TO IT.
Tishtreps Tishtreps
THAT'S RIGHT, THIS GUY WAS ORIGINALLY LIKE THIS!!
Then can you please do this kind of thing to some other girl?
What kind of narcissism is that?

DO YOU STILL NOT UNDER-STAND...?
IT'S BECAUSE IT'S YOU THAT I DID THIS.

SLAPS AWAY
Don't tease me for fun!
!
TREMBLES TREMBLES
I...
I won't fall for your tricks!!
TREMBLES TREMBLES TREMBLES
?
RUSHES
TODAY...
I HAD NO INTENTION TO MAKE FUN OF YOU.
SLUMPS
What is up with this guy?
THROWS
Hateful!!

SHOUT'S
NO NO NO NO!
I WAS GOING TO CUT OFF THESE FEELINGS,
BUT IF IT GOES ON LIKE THIS...
...TO RETURN TO MY ORIGINAL WORLD ONE DAY.
I HAVE...
?
WHY IS THERE SUCH A NOISE AT THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT...?
SWAG SWAG
GRANDPA...
JUST WAIT A BIT MORE
PATA
CLASP
BUT...
HE HAS ALSO HELPED ME A LOT...
EVEN IF I FALL FOR HIM, THERE WON'T BE AN OUTCOME.
I'VE GOT TO REPAY HIM BACK

STEPS
THAT IS...
FALLS
MURASAKI SAN!?
clatter
rolls
DID SHE COLLAPSE!?
Oh no...
HANA-?

Morasaki san!
Tsk...
It's you again.
Did you especially come here to make fun of me?
NO
That's not it!
I saw you collapse from the window, so I came here.
Hahaha-haha
Still acting kind I see.
ANGRY
Just like Akari...
Quit putting on that sympathetic look.
Damn it!
Where's the lantern...?
...Hn?
What's with that...? That smell...

What's going on!?
Caught on fire!?
Kenji... What should we do, it's caught on fire...!!
HANA...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
FIRE!?
HUH!?
THIS IS TO GET BACK AT AKARI!!
IT'S ME...
I LIT THE FIRE
If this continues, then the whole store will be in danger!
Hana, hurry up and get out of here! I'll go call for help!!
Kenji!!
MURASAKI SAN...!?

Murasaki san, why did you do this...?
THERE ISN'T A REASON WHY
BUT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH
COMMITTING ARSON AND BEING SENTENCED TO DEATH BECAUSE OF IT, WOULDN'T IT BE THE MOST BEFITTING END FOR ME?
How can that be?
Ang...
Angwags, let's hurry up and leave this place!
COUGHS
COUGHS
THE FIRE'S SPREADING AT A FAST PACE!
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
What an idiot, you should leave me here!
Quickly! Escape by yourself!

I know that you've been through a lot of painful experiences, am I right?
Although I don't quite understand Murasaki san
Then...
Why make it more painful for yourself?
PULLS
I can't do that.
We must properly clear this misunderstanding.
!!
SERIOUSLY, PEOPLE OF THE SHIROMATSUYA.
—THEY'RE A BUNCH OF IDIOTS
Murasaki san—
It's exactly why I hate you guys...

BUT THIS FEELING...
I'VE... FELT THIS BEFORE...
IT'S..
HOT.
THE SMOKE IS SUFFO-CATING...
Kyaa
CRASH
SNAP
Sorry
Friendship Scans
HUH?
WHY WOULD I...
..REMEM-BER MY MOTHER RIGHT NOW?
THE PEN-DANT IS GLOW-ING...
CRASH
OH NO...

PUSH AWAY
Ah!
Sfx: Thunk, Crash, Burning
!?
IN ORDER TO SAVE ME...
Wai...Wait,
it's burning over there!!
Murasaki san!?
IT'S ENOUGH ALREADY...
THIS IS JUST PERFECT... I ALSO FEEL THAT LIFE IS VERY TIRING IN YOSHIWARA.

RUMBLE
No, don't!
Murasaki san!!
I REMEMBER THAT YOU'RE CALLED HANA...
I'M SORRY...
CAN YOU APOLOGIZE TO AKARI FOR ME?
JUST "I'M VERY SORRY..." WILL DO.

GETS UP
!?
THE SOUND OF RAIN...?
RAIN
...? THIS PLACE IS
Hana!!
Hana! Finally, you regained consciousness!
KEJI AKARI SAN

THIS PLACE IS MITSUBAYA
THE LAND LORD OF THIS PLACE, SOUEMON SAMA IS TEMPORARILY TAKING IN THE PEOPLE WHO WERE WOUNDED
RIGHT... THE FIRE...
Murasaki san...
What about Murasaki san!?
JUST NOW,
HER REMAINS WAS DIS-COVERED.
HOW.
HOW CAN THAT BE!?
I CAN'T APOLOGIZE ENOUGH...
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT

AKARI SAN...
Indeed if we speak of the origin, it is unavoidable that Akari's relatives...
Whispers Whispers
As I thought, isn't Murasaki the person who started the fire...?
IT'S ME WHO...
HAS DRIVEN MURASAKI SAN TO THE EDGE
THIS HAP-PENED...
FLUTTER
That was only an accident!!
No, it's not!!
STARTLED...
I was always present, therefore I know very well!!
The fire has nothing to do with Akari san!
Murasaki san
also wanted to apologize to Akari san...!!

HANA...
MURASAKI, SHE PROBABLY UNDERSTOOD WITHIN HER HEART...
EVEN THOUGH SHE KNEW THAT SHE COULDN'T GO ON
SHE WAS UNABLE TO CHANGE HER FEELINGS...
Remiosuke...!?
Cand lovel..!!
How's the store!?
IT STARTED TO RAIN, SO THE FIRE WAS EXTINGUISHED.
WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT TILL MORNING TO ORGANIZE THE PLACE...
NEVERTHELESS, HANA...
NEVERMIND... SINCE YOU'RE NORMALLY LIKE THIS,
THIS TIME, YOU'RE GOING TO PAY A BIG PRICE FOR IT.
YOU DID A RECKLESS THING AGAIN!
HUH...?

THIS... THIS PENDANT IS A NECESSITY FOR ME TO RETURN TO MY ORIGINAL WORLD...
COULD-BE...?
FROM THAT TIME...!?
ALTHOUGH I DID MY BEST TO GATHER IT...
!?
IF THIS IS BROKEN, THEN DOES IT MEAN THAT-
HANA...?
I AM NO LONGER...
...ABLE TO GO BACK!?
COULD SHE HAVE COME TO A DEAD END!?
待續 To Be Continued...

Friendship Scans

Chapter 12

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AS LONG AS I CAN BE BY YOUR SIDE...
NO MATTER HOW MANY PROBLEMS ARISE...
I'LL GET THROUGH THEM WITH A SMILE~~~~

相伴……
到怎樣的苦難
都能笑著撐過去

漫畫第③卷
于9月26日（週三）
預定發售！

百花繚乱 花鬼王公卷

よしわら花おぼろ

Chapter 12
Around in Circles

音中さわき

SFX Hyu
SEE THAT?
DON'T GET TOO CLOSE TO THAT WELL OVER THERE.
SFX Gloooooomy
ONCE NIGHTFALL COMES THERE'S A TEARFUL VOICE...
COMING FROM INSIDE
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
IT CRIES, LET ME OUT...
AND THEN THE SOUND OF THAT GRIEVING VOICE WAILING TO BE FREED WILL PLAY THROUGH YOUR MIND INCESSANTLY.
IF YOU'RE LURED BY THE SOUND AND REMOVE THE LID...
FROM WITHIN THE WELL A PAIR OF WOMAN'S HANDS WILL REACH OUT...
A-WAH!
!?
Friendship Scans
THIS PLACE IS MITSUBAYA.
WHAT'S WRONG? DO THOSE TYPES OF THINGS SCARE YOU?
Ah ha ha
Please stop
Takatsuki-san~~~

IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE THE FIRE...
ALTHOUGH THE FIRE ITSELF DIDN'T SPREAD...
SHIRO-MATSUYA WAS REDUCED TO A PILE OF RUBBLE.
UNTIL WE FIND TEMPORARY HOUSING...
WE'RE IMPOSING ON MITSUBAYA FOR NOW.
STOP STOP
THAT STORY ISN'T TRUE!
THERE REALLY ARE PEOPLE WHO FELL INTO THE WELL AND WERE NEVER SEEN AGAIN.
IT'S NOT A LIE
LOOK, I SEE IT!
AHHH!
AHEM
WHAT'S GOING ON? A GHOST STORY?
BEHIND YOU...
THERE'S A HAND WANTING TO DRAG YOU INTO THE WELL!

ONCE AGAIN
I SCARED YOU WHAT A FUNNY REACTION
STOP THAT!!!
I'M REALLY SCARED»
ALRIGHT DON'T BE ANGRY
IF YOU CAN'T SLEEP TONIGHT THEN,
I'LL COME SLEEP WITH YOU
THERE'S NO NEED»
RENNOSUKE IS THE SAME AS USUAL, EVEN DURING A TIME LIKE THIS
TEASING ME AS HE PLEASES...
OPENS

AFTER THE FIRE,
HER HEALTH DETERIO-RATED AND SHE NEEDS TO STAY IN BED
TH-THAT KOMICHI-SAMA...
IT'S PRETTY MUCH OVER NOW...
PLEASE BE QUIET!! THERE'S SOMEONE GET-TING TREATED HERE, STOP BEING SO NOISY!!!
S-SORRY, AKARI-SAN.
IT'S FINE.
I SHOULD BE THE ONE TO APOLOGIZE, MAKING EVERY-ONE WORRY ABOUT ME AT A TIME LIKE THIS.
HANA, ARE YOU OKAY?
EVER SINCE THE FIRE BROKE OUT YOU HAVEN'T LOOKED WELL...
BUT DESPITE THAT, SHE DOES HER VERY BEST TO ACT THE SAME AS ALWAYS BECAUSE...
RIGHT NOW IS AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TIME FOR SHIRO MATSUYA.
I SHOULD FOLLOW HER EXAMPLE.
Order up!
Here's the medicine
Thank you.
IT APPEARS THAT THE FIRE DEALT A GREAT DEAL OF SHOCK TO HER MIND AND BODY.

ON TOP OF THAT, DURING THE FIRE
MY PENDANT WAS BROKEN
IT ALSO HIT ME HARD, OF COURSE
REGARDING THE MATTER OF MURASAKI-SAN
AND THE SHIROMATSUYA FIRE...
IN OTHER WORDS...
I CAN'T RETURN TO MY ORIGINAL ERA...
I'M SORRY TO HAVE CALLED YOU HERE,
PLEASE EXCUSE ME
SOUEMON-DONO!
BECAUSE
LIVING THE REST OF MY LIFE IN YOSHIWARA...
IS SOMETHING I'VE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT.
ACTUALLY I'M IN NO MOOD TO SMILE
MY HEART IS FILLED WITH ANXIETY...

TO BE HONEST, I HAVE A FAVOR...
THAT I WANT TO ASK OF YOU
WHAT FAVOR?
OH, I FOUND YOU! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU,
YOU'RE HANA RIGHT?
Y-YES...?
TOMORROW IS THE BUSYOU-SHO'S EVENT
ORIGINALLY, THERE WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SEVERAL OF YOSHIWARA'S YUUJO ATTENDING
BUT DUE TO THE FIRE THAT BROKE OUT A FEW DAYS AGO, WE'RE SHORT ONE PERSON
Friendship Scars
AFTER INFORMING THE PEOPLE ABOUT THIS,
THEY INSISTED ON SEEING THE MYSTERIOUS SHINZO FROM SHIROMATSUYA WHO BECAME THE TALK OF THE TOWN AT THE PARADE OF THE TSUITACHI
BUT SHE ISN'T A YUUJO...
Mysterious shinzo ?
You're very famous...
THAT I ALREADY KNOW
HOW ABOUT IT? SHE ONLY NEEDS TO SIT NEXT TO TAKITSUKI

ISN'T SOUEMON-SAMA BEING TOO UNREASONABLE!?
TO ACTUALLY ALLOW YOU TO ATTEND...
THIS IS REALLY UNBELIEVABLE!
COULD YOU HONOR THIS ELDERLY MAN...
AND ACCEPT MY REQUEST?
INDEED.
IF YOU DO HIM THIS FAVOR, THEN WE CAN INTRUDE WITHOUT CONSTRAINT.
THIS IS A VERY RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO ACTUALLY HELP OUT.
SO IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA
I HAVE A FEELING THAT I'M BEING PRAISED FOR THE FIRST TIME
UM... HEY,
WHAT DOES BUGYOUSHO ATTENDANCE REFER TO...?
BUGYOUSHO ATTENDANCE IS DESIGNED TO SERVICE THE OFFICIALS!
ONLY THE BEST PERFORMERS ARE SELECTED!!
BUGYOUSHO ATTENDANCE
ONE OF THE PRACTICES ESTABLISHED DURING THE TIME OF YOSHIWARA.
THERE'S NO PROSTITUTING, ONLY ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE OFFICIALS IN THE FORM OF THE PERFORMING ARTS. THE ATTENDANCE IS AN EVENT OF HONOR.
EH... EH
SLAM

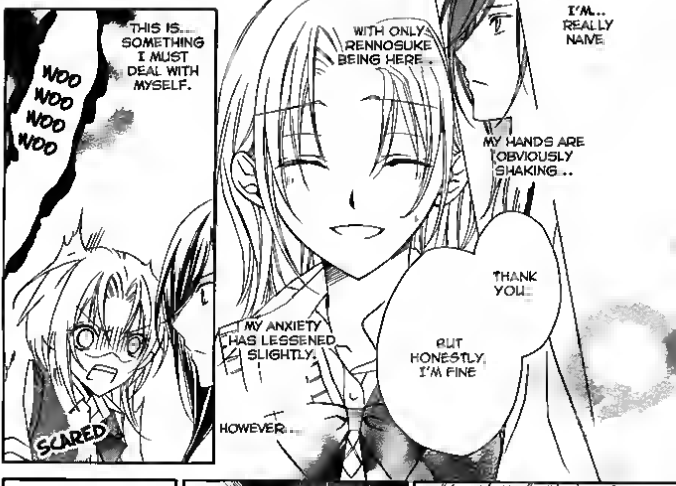
SHE DOESN'T NEED TO BE THAT ANGRY
REPRESSED
Sigh... Really misses the old...
THAT'S HOW IT IS.
WHY WAS SOMEONE LIKE YOU CHOSEN?
PUNCH
OUCH!
NATSUYAMA IS A PROMISING SHINZO AND AS WELL AS HER FELLOW SISTERS, THEY'RE ALL TWICE AS AMBITIOUS AS OTHER PEOPLE
SEEING THE PROFESSION OF THE COURTESANS GETTING TARNISHED BY YOU,
OF COURSE SHE'LL BE ANGRY
HA?
ANYWAY...
LEAVING ASIDE THE SUBJECT OF DISGUISING YOU AS A COURTESAN
HAVE YOU FOUND THAT MEMENTO YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR?
SHOCKED
HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON RELYING ON SHIRO-MATSUYA?

ALTHOUGH I UNDERSTAND THAT
I CAN'T KEEP BEING A BURDEN TO SHIRO-MATSUYA
IN THIS ERA APART FROM THIS PLACE, I HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO
IT'S MORE LIKE I'VE LOST IT
RATHER THAN SAYING THAT I CAN'T FIND THE KEY BACK TO MY HOME...
SUDDENLY SAYING THIS IS REALLY PAINFUL
UM, ABOUT THAT
HONESTLY...
SO...
THE MEANING OF THIS
YOU DO UNDERSTAND, RIGHT...?
HOWEVER
IF YOU CONTINUE STAYING HERE, THEN
IN FRONT OF THE OTHER COURTESANS, I WON'T GIVE YOU SPECIAL TREATMENT ANYMORE
.....
IF YOU WANT TO STAY IN SHIRO-MATSUYA, THERE'S NO HARM IN THAT
!?

CERTAINLY WHETHER IT'S AKARI-SAN OR NATSUYA-KUN WHO IS THE SAME AGE AS ME
FOR ME TO BE THE EXCEPTION IS SIMPLY UNACCEPTABLE.
EVERYONE IS WORKING HARD TO KEEP LIVING.
THAT... THAT IS
BUT AM I...
CAPABLE...
OF DOING THIS?
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL END UP STRUGGLING LATER ON
I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS ANY LONGER...
THAT'S RIGHT... IN ORDER TO LIVE IN THIS ERA...
YOU BETTER PREPARE YOURSELF

I was in a bit of a daze...
AH...
IT'S NOTHING
GRAB!
HANA?
RENNO-SUKE!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING STARING OFF INTO SPACE LIKE THAT?
Friendship Scans
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT'S NOTHING
YOUR HANDS ARE TREMBLING
BUT, WHAT SHOULD I TELL HIM?
ALTHOUGH I WANT TO STAY HERE... I DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO BECOME A COURTESAN
AND SO ON
?
IN RENNO-SUKE?
WHAT SHOULD I DO? SHOULD I CONFIDE...

HOW CAN I SAY SOMETHING SO SELFISH?
YOU...
COULD IT BE...
BECAUSE YOU WERE HUNGRY
YOU ATE SOMETHING STRANGE?
I DID NOT!
SERIOUSLY!
AH HA HA HA HA!
SORRY SORRY!
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR MAKING A FACE LIKE THERE WAS NO WAY OUT I COULDN'T HELP TEASING YOU...
SO, WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU?


I'M... REALLY NAIVE
WITH ONLY RENNOSUKE BEING HERE...
MY HANDS ARE OBVIOUSLY SHAKING...
THANK YOU...
BUT HONESTLY, I'M FINE
MY ANXIETY HAS LESSENED SLIGHTLY.
HOWEVER...
THIS IS... SOMETHING I MUST DEAL WITH MYSELF.
WOO WOO WOO WOO
SCARED

WHA...?
WHERE IS THAT VOICE COMING FROM?
WOO...
Could..
COULD THERE REALLY BE A GHOST?
WOO WOO WOO
EH? THE WELL THAT TAKITSUKI-SAN WAS TALKING ABOUT...!
SPX THUD
CLING!
MIKES!
OUCH...
HNN...?

THAT'S MY LINE!
KIYO...
THIS VOICE IS...
KIYOMASA...?
GLARE
IT'S GREAT TO HAVE RAN INTO YOU GUYS!
!
RENNOSUKE... WHY WOULD YOU BE HERE?
I'VE COME HERE BECAUSE I HEARD UTAE... NO, I MEAN TAKITSUKI, WILL BE ATTENDING THE BUGYOUSHO TOMORROW!!
PLEASE!
STOP TAKITSUKI FROM GOING!
Friendship Scans

IF WE'RE HERE THEN WE WON'T BE SEEN
SO?
WHY DO YOU WANT TO STOP HER ATTENDANCE?
.....
DURING TOMORROW'S ATTENDANCE, A LOCAL OFFICIAL NAMED KAWANUMA WILL BE VISITING IN SECRET
THAT PERSON IS NOTORIOUS FOR BEING TYRANNICAL AND BAD TEMPERED.

FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, KAWANUMA...
WILL MOST LIKELY KILL TAKITSUKI WITHOUT MERCY???
KILL...KILL MERCILESSLY? YOU MEAN TAKITSUKI-SAN WILL DIE?
WHY!?
APPARENTLY, KAWANUMA WANTS TO SLEEP WITH TAKITSUKI.
AND WITH THIS OPPORTUNITY, HE MIGHT EVEN USE VIOLENCE TO FORCE HIMSELF ON HER...
TAKITSUKI WILL NEVER SUBMIT. THAT'S WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT

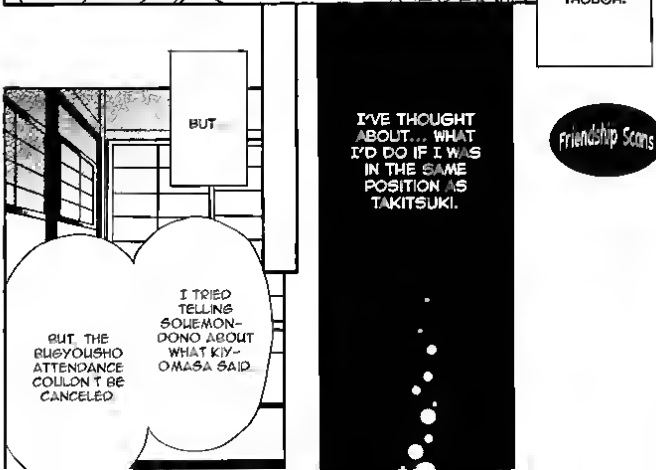
KAWANUMA HAS PREVIOUSLY...
SLAIN TWO COURTESANS
!
I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT FOR A FINE PERFORMER LIKE TAKITSUKI,
CANCELING HER ATTENDANCE ISN'T SOMETHING THAT CAN BE DONE EASILY
HOWEVER, IF SOMETHING WAS TO HAPPEN TO TAKITSUKI
I---

TAKITSUKI-SAN!!
TAKITSUKI-SAN
CAN YOU CANCEL TOMORROW'S ATTENDANCE!?
EH?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING THAT ALL OF THE SUDDEN?
JUST NOW—
KIYOMASA-SAN SHOWED UP IN THE BACKYARD
!
?
WHAT'S THE MATTER HANA? YOU SEEM SO FRANTIC

THAT IDIOT!
STAND?
I'LL GO GET HIM TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!
W-WAIT A MINUTE, TAKISKI-SAN!
YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSITION HE'S IN,
SO I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D SAY SUCH THINGS
BUT---
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
I
DIDN'T DISTANCE MYSELF FROM HIM BECAUSE OF THAT
IT'S EXCRUCIATING
SEEING ME LIKE THIS IS EXCRUCIATINGLY PAINFUL!
TO HAVE HIM---

I WAS SUPPOSE TO EXPLAIN WHAT KIYOMASA SAID,
TO TAKITSUKI-SAN ..
TAKITSUKI-SAN'S WORDS PIERCED MY CHEST.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I SHOULD SAY

.....
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT THOUGH.


I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT... WHAT I'D DO IF I WAS IN THE SAME POSITION AS TAKITSUKI.
Friendship Scans
BUT
I TRIED TELLING SOUEMON-DONO ABOUT WHAT KIYOMASA SAID
BUT, THE BUGYOUSHO ATTENDANCE COULDN'T BE CANCELED

HOW CAN THAT BE?
CALM DOWN
HE SAID THAT HE'LL MAKE SURE TO TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES
AND AS FOR KIYOMASA
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN, HE'LL STEP IN AND PUT A STOP TO THE BUSYOUSHO ATTENDANCE
KIYOMASA-SAN WOULD DO THAT!?
.....
!!!
?
WHAT'S WRONG?
AH..
NO, NOTHING
GRABS
ALL YOU'VE SAID TODAY IS "NOTHING"
YOU KEEP CHANGING THE SUBJECT.
THIS ISN'T INTERESTING AT ALL.

PUSHES
I SAID THAT IT'S NOTHING
SO IT'S NOTHING!
Too close
IS IT SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN'T TELL ME?
RENNOSUKE'S FACE IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY FACE BUT I CAN'T GET A CLEAR VIEW...
GOOD NIGHT!
That really hurts
UGH!
BECAUSE I'M, SOMEWHAT UNEXPECTEDLY, CONSCIOUS...
WHEN I THINK OF THE FEELINGS HE HOLDS FOR TAKITSUKI...
I FEEL PAINED
BUT THAT MEANS...
THIS IS PROOF OF...

WA HA HA HA!
HOW MUCH..
I LIKE HIM.
PUTS DOWN
HERE YOU GO
WELL, WELL.
THEY CERTAINLY DO LIVE UP TO THEIR REPUTATION AS YOSHIWARA'S FINEST PERFORMERS SUCH GRACEFUL MANNERS.
EVEN OUR DAILY FATIGUE HAS BEEN SWEPT AWAY!
THIS...
TEA
Ah.
Bears heard
STIR
STIR
THIS IS A BUGYOUSHO ATTENDANCE
DANCE
How beautiful
Graceful
Feast for one's eyes
Amazing
Sushi, Matchless
Sour
KOTO

SOUEMON-SAMA SAID THAT I ONLY NEEDED TO SIT DOWN AND THAT WOULD BE FINE
OH,
ISN'T THAT THE SHINZO THAT EVERY-ONE'S BEEN FUSSING ABOUT?
BUT THAT SURE IS ONE STRANGE OUTFIT!
BUT NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, I'M SO OUT OF PLACE!
SHE WON'T EVEN MOVE...
Sits
still
HUH?
SHE DOESN'T DO ANY-THING?
NOT EVEN A GAME OF SHOGI?
RIGHT,
NOW IT'S THE TIME TO BE DEPRESSED.
I HAVEN'T SEEN TAKITSUKI-SAN AROUND FOR A WHILE
Let's go over there
This is really scary ~~~
Appears
EVEN THOUGH SOUEMON SEEMS TO HAVE DONE SOME PREPA-RATIONS..
IS IT REALLY GOING TO BE OKAY?
AREN'T YOU THE ONE CALLED HANA?

SFX GRABS
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
HUH..!?
Friendship Scans
...HAH!?
WELL THIS ISN'T BAD
WHAT!?
PLEASE WAIT A SECOND!
KAWANUMA-SAMA!
Shields
TAKI TSUKI-SAN!
HANA
RUN!!
KAWANUMA-SAMA'S TARGET ISN'T ME!
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH GIRLS OUTSIDE THIS PROFESSION

BUT, YOU!!
EH...
BEFORE, I WAS NEGOTIATING WITH SOUEMON TO GIVE TAKITSUKI TO ME
HOWEVER, SOUEMON WOULD ALWAYS REFUSE AND CLAIM THAT NO ONE CAN EVER OWN A COURTESAN.
HE ALSO SAID THAT
AS LONG AS IT'S NOT A COURTESAN, THEN IT'S FINE WITH HIM
I HAVE NO IDEA IF IT'S TO SAVE YOSHIWARA AND THE POSITION OF HIS REPUTABLE PERFORMERS.
BUT TO EVEN GO AS FAR AS PUSHING AN IGNORANT GIRL FORWARD, IT'S NO WONDER HE'S A BOUHACHI
PUSHES
SCRAM!
!!
TAKITSUKI SAN!!
UGH!
DARN IT...

HACH!
SUCH A NOISY WOMAN.
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU SHUT UP.
HOLD ON!
YOU SCOUNDREL!!
---UTAE!!

SFX SUU
KIYOMASA-SAN!
TAKITSUKI-SAN!
HUH!?
TRANSPARENT?
WHAT IS THIS!? WHY AM I...
IT'S ALMOST...
AS IF I'M GOING TO DISAPPEAR.
CAN'T BE...
NO WAY---!!
SFX DOKA

WHA...!?
DON'T TOUCH HER.
!
ROWS
WITH YOUR DIRTY HANDS!

RENNO-SUKE...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? HANA?
WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW ..?
MY BODY.. WAS LITERALLY ABOUT TO DISAPPEAR —..
LIN LIN
Friendship Scans
YOU DARE TO BELITTLE ME...
KWAH
BASTARD
YOU CAN JUST GO TO SLEEP FOR NOW..!!
SFX THUD
URGH!?

SLAPS
!
AHH,
NOW WE CAN AT LEAST BE AT EASE FOR A WHILE. HUH...?
KIYOMASA-SAN!
ARE THE TWO OF YOU HURT ANY-WHERE?
UTAE...?
WHY ARE YOU ACTING RECKLESSLY AGAIN?
MY HEART.
WAS ABOUT ABOUT TO STOP!

BACK THEN, WHEN MY BODY BECAME TRANSPARENT, IT SCARED ME
IT MUST BE BECAUSE IF THE TWO OF THEM DIE, I'LL DISAPPEAR
I'M... DRAWN BY TAKITSUKI-SAN AND KIYOMASA-SAN'S BLOOD
AT THAT MOMENT, I FIRMLY UNDERSTOOD THAT...
I'VE BEEN EMBRACING THESE FEELINGS, AND EVEN THOUGH THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME, I FEEL VERY HAPPY FOR THEM
FOR TAKITSUKI SAN AND KIYOMASA SAN
IN ANY CASE, I FEEL VERY HAPPY...
FOR THE TWO OF THEM, STANDING BEFORE ME
I'M SUPPOSED TO FEEL HAPPY...
WHY AM I FEELING SO UNEASY...?
YET...
WHAT'S WITH THIS STRANGE FEELING?
11月号 9月24日發售 未完待續 ★ To Be Continued...

Translator Notes

Page 6. Dono = Lord/Master (archaic)

Page7 Bugyousho = Magistrates office where the Edo machi bugyo (Edo city commissioners) take charge in governing and maintaining order in the shogunal city of Edo

Edo machi bugyo (Edo city commissioners) were selected from among those of hatamoto (direct samurai retainers of the shogunate)

Yuuja = Courtesan

Tsuitachi = First day of the lunar month

Shinzo = Apprentice geisha of an Oiran (High ranked courtesan)

Page 26 Bouhachi = Owner of a brothel

Friendship Scans

Rebirth
Chapter D

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WHY DO I FEEL SO UNEASY?

百花繚乱、花魁絵巻

よしわら花おぼろ

I STILL DIDN'T KNOW THE REASON BEHIND THIS UNEASINESS

AT THAT TIME

FOLLOWING THIS BIG COMMOTION IS...!?

FINALLY, THE TOUCHING CLIMAX IS APPROACHING!!

HOW IS IT, RENNO-SUKE?
YOU SHOULD BE PRETTY TIRED OF THIS LODGING LIFE STYLE BY NOW
HOWEVER,
I CAN'T LET YOU GUYS OFF AFTER MAKING A SCENE AT THE BUGYOUSHO ATTENDANCE
RETURNING TO YOSHIWARA IS NOT COMPLETELY IMPOSSIBLE
THEN AFTER THE SEASON HAS PASSED BY...

I UNDERSTAND!
THE CONDITION IS TO SELL HANA TO MY BROTHEL...
HUH...?
IS THIS...
SOME KIND OF JOKE...?
ON THAT DAY
I ACCEPTED REALITY.
Final chapter: Rebirth

Friendship Scans

THUS, I'VE DECIDED TO LIVE ON IN YOSHIWARA.

IF I COULD SAVE SHIROMATSUYA THIS WAY, THEN I AM WILLING TO DO SO.

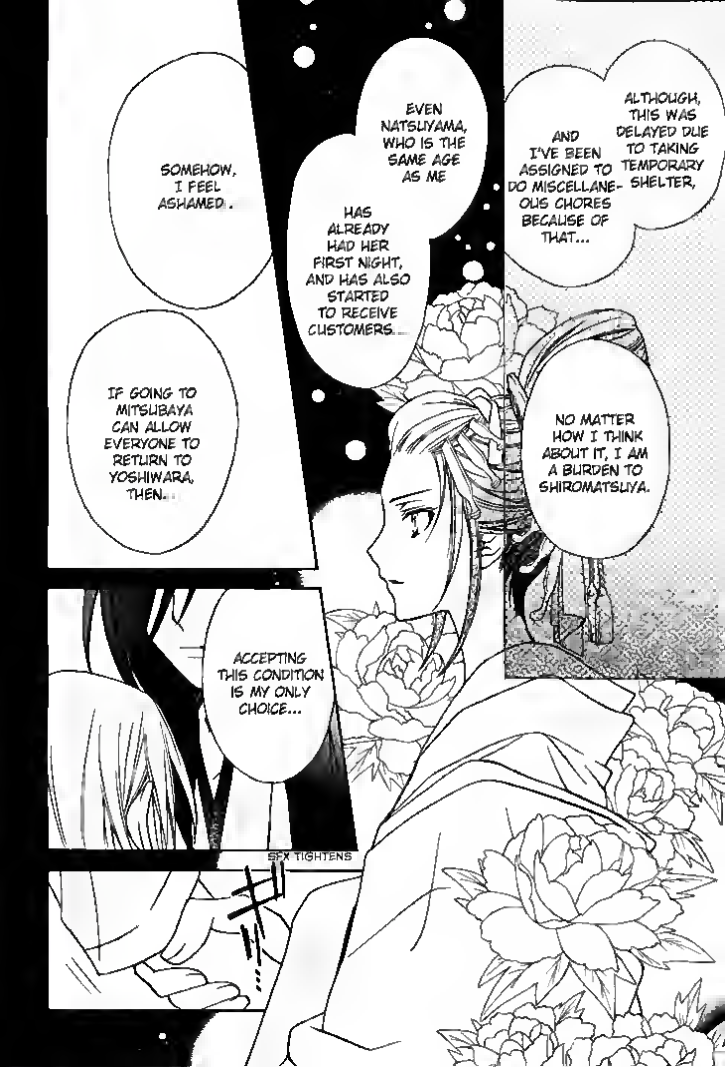
ONE'S DESTINY IS TO BE UNLOCKED BY ONE'S OWN HANDS ——

よしわら花おぼろ

百花繚乱 花魁絵巻

IT'S BEEN ONE YEAR SINCE THE BUGYOUSHO ATTEND-ANCE...
WITHIN THE SPAN OF THIS YEAR.
OI! HANA, WAIT!
ARE YOU BEING SERIOUS!?
SHIROMA TSUYA'S FINANCES HAVE GONE FROM BAD TO WORSE.
I'M SERIOUS!!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SOLD TO MITSUBAYA?
IT MEANS THAT YOU'LL BECOME A YUUJO!!

Friendship Scene
DUE TO THE INCIDENT AT THE BUGYOUSHO ATTENDANCE, RENNOSUKE AND SOUEMON-SAMA ARE AT LOGGERHEADS WITH EACH OTHER...
I'M AWARE OF THAT.
BUT,
IF I DON'T ACCEPT THE CONDITION, THEN SHIROMATSUYA WILL COLLAPSE...
WE CAN'T LET EVERYONE END UP ON THE STREETS, CAN WE?
INCURRING SOUEMON-SAMA'S ANIMOSITY, SHIROMATSUYA
WAS DRIVEN OUT, AND ARE NOW LODGING AT THE TEMPORARY SHELTER, OUTSIDE OF YOSHIWARA...
THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF RULES IN YOSHIWARA...
IF WE CAN NEVER BE ABLE TO RETURN TO YOSHIWARA, THEN SHIROMATSUYA WILL BE BANISHED BY THE OFFICIALS...
MOREOVER... BECOMING A YUUJO
IS SOMETHING I STARTED THINKING ABOUT A LONG TIME AGO.
IN OTHER WORDS, IT
BUSINESS WOULD CLOSE DOWN.


ALTHOUGH, THIS WAS DELAYED DUE TO TAKING TEMPORARY SHELTER,
AND I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO DO MISCELLANEOUS CHORES BECAUSE OF THAT...
NO MATTER HOW I THINK ABOUT IT, I AM A BURDEN TO SHIROMATSUYA.
EVEN NATSUYAMA, WHO IS THE SAME AGE AS ME
HAS ALREADY HAD HER FIRST NIGHT, AND HAS ALSO STARTED TO RECEIVE CUSTOMERS...
SOMEHOW, I FEEL ASHAMED.
IF GOING TO MITSUBAYA CAN ALLOW EVERYONE TO RETURN TO YOSHIWARA, THEN...
ACCEPTING THIS CONDITION IS MY ONLY CHOICE...
SFX TIGHTENS

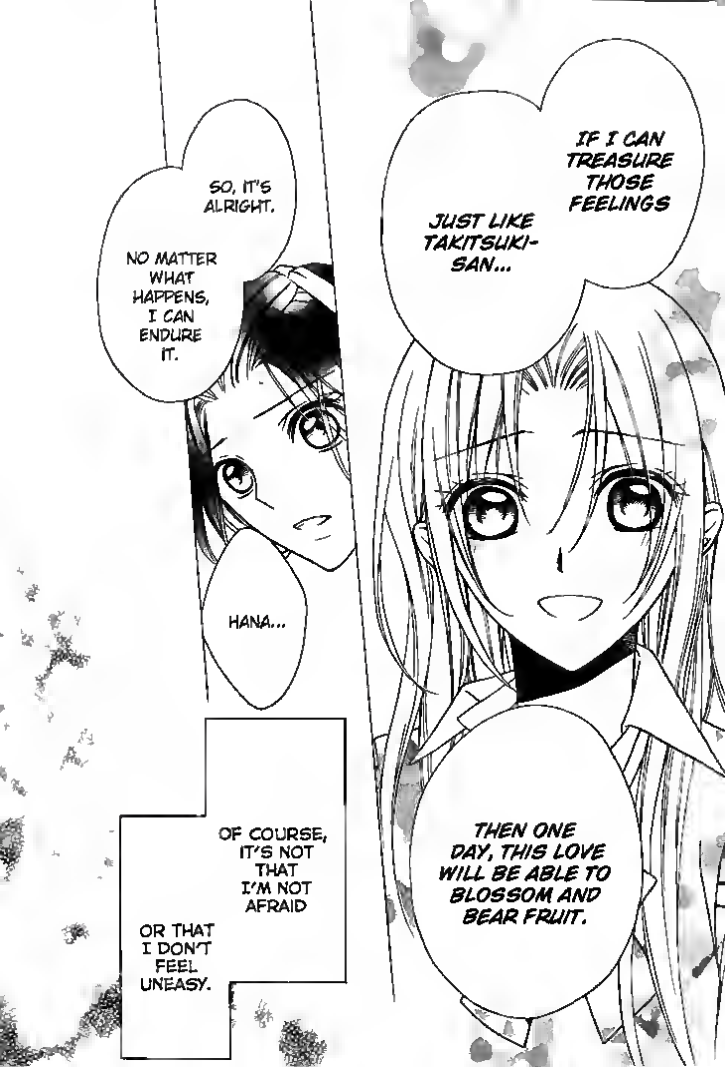
RENNO-SUKE...
IS... ANGRY...?
IT HURTS
WAIT A MINUTE...
SFX PULLS
RENNO-SUKE...
YOU...
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT THIS IS OKAY?
THAT...
ABOUT THAT...
WA WA WA
WA WA WA
!

DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME,
DESPITE ALL THE ONGOING TROUBLES...
TAKITSUKI-SAN!
CAN YOU ALREADY GET OUT OF BED?
THERE ARE ALSO JOYFUL MO-MENTS.
BECAUSE TAKISUKI-SAN...
YES
YOU GUYS
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THIS PLACE?
GAVE BIRTH TO A BABY.
Friendship Scans
BECAUSE THIS CHILD IS KIYOMASA'S
TAKISUKI-SAN STILL DECIDED TO GIVE BIRTH ..
BUT RE-GARDLESS OF HAVING HER FIXED TERM CON-TRACT EXTENDED
IT'S A SERIOUS MATTER FOR A YUUJO TO GIVE BIRTH,

THE CURRENT TAKITSUKI-SAN STILL LOOKS VERY HAPPY...
EVEN SO,
SINCE, KIYO-MASA-SAN WENT TO KYOTO TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POST.*
NOTE: KYOTO SHOSHI-DAI = KYOTO DEPUTY A POSITION RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE AFFAIRS OF KYOTO, ESPECIALLY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE IMPERIAL COURT AND NEARBY TEMPLES.
FOR THE TIME BEING, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO COME OVER TO YOSHIWARA
SORRY...
!!!
ドキ...!
SFX: THUMP
I FEEL LIKE MY BREATHING IS LABOURED, LIKE I COULD COLLAPSE AT ANY MOMENT.
BUT WHY...?
IT'S AS IF I'M...
RE-CENTLY
I KEEP RECALLING THINGS ABOUT MY MOTHER
BA DUMP
BA DUMP
EH...? AGAIN...
THAT IS MOST LIKELY
BECAUSE TAKITSUKI-SAN AND I ARE DISTANT RELATIVES

EXCUSE ME!
I'LL BE GOING AHEAD FIRST.
RENNO-SUKE!
AFRAID... OF SOME-THING...
HUH!?
YOU'RE GOING TO BE MITSUBA'S YUUJO!?
BESIDES, WE CAN'T MAKE SOUEMON-SAMA ANY MORE HOSTILE TOWARDS US.
I ALREADY SAID THAT I CAN'T DO THAT...
.....
REFUSE HIM!!
WHY DID YOU AGREE TO SUCH A CONDITION?!!
YOU...
DIDN'T
That sentence be actually the value for recuperation
UWA WA WA
BOUHACHI • OWNER OF A BUFOTME

BUT, YOU'RE...
IN LOVE WITH RENNOSUKE
!?
CAN YOU REALLY DO THIS?
IT'S VERY DIFFICULT, YOU KNOW?
I GET IT, MORE OR LESS...
THIS SORT OF THING...
BUT, I...
HAVE ALREADY DECIDED THAT NO MATTER HOW HARD IT'LL BE, I'LL CONTINUE TO LIVE HERE.
HUH?
THAT I THINK THIS WAY...
IT'S THANKS TO TAKISUKI-SAN.
Friendship Scans


IF I CAN TREASURE THOSE FEELINGS
JUST LIKE TAKITSUKI-SAN...
THEN ONE DAY, THIS LOVE WILL BE ABLE TO BLOSSOM AND BEAR FRUIT.
SO, IT'S ALRIGHT.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I CAN ENDURE IT.
HANA...
OF COURSE, IT'S NOT THAT I'M NOT AFRAID
OR THAT I DON'T FEEL UNEASY.

CONTINUE TO MOVE FOWARD...
NEXT, I CAN ONLY...
BUT SINCE I'VE ALREADY COME TO TERMS WITH IT.
!
WELL, I GOT INTO A SEVERE ARGUMENT
REN
.....WHAT DO YOU WANT?

SO THEN,
YOU'D HATE FOR THAT GIRL TO BECOME A YUUJO?
TO THINK THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY IN LOVE WITH THAT GIRL...
THIS SOMEWHAT SURPRISES ME.
SIGH
I'M THE ONE WHO IS THE MOST SURPRISED.
I DIDN'T EXPECT MYSELF TO HAVE SUCH FEELINGS...
SU
YOU NEVER LEARN, DO YOU?
IF THINGS HAVE BECOME THIS WAY, IT'LL BE EASIER TO SIMPLY GIVE UP.
I DON'T WANT TO BE TOLD THAT BY YOU.
YOU LEFT THE STORE AT KYOTO AND CAME TO THIS PLACE FOR AKARI...

NO,
I'VE GIVEN UP...
PLEASE DON'T LUMP ME TOGETHER WITH YOU.
AKARI ALREADY DOESN'T HAVE LONG TO LIVE.
THERE ISN'T MUCH I CAN DO FOR HER.
I ONLY CAME HERE TO ACCOMPANY HER UNTIL THE END.
BUT, RENNOSUKE...
YOU'RE DIFFERENT.
Friendship Scars

ISN'T THERE STILL SOMETHING YOU CAN DO FOR THAT GIRL?
YEAH
BECAUSE THAT ANNOYING GIRL IS GONE!
IT FEELS LIKE THE STORE HAS GOTTEN VERY QUIET.
...
IS SHE REALLY GOING TO BECOME MITSUBAYA'S YUUJO..?
...HANA, I WONDER IF SHE'S OKAY?
EVEN IF HANA HAS GOOD QUALITIES, WITHOUT ANY FAMILY BACK-GROUND, SHE CAN ONLY BE A LOW CLASS YUUJO.
SHE CAN ONLY WORK AND SELL HERSELF CHEAPLY.
IN THE END IT WILL LEAD TO HER DEATH.
...TSK.
HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR HER TO BE OKAY!?

ONEE-CHAN!
ONEE CHAN!
Are you going to cut her?
THIS BAD TEMPER OF YOURS
HASN'T CHANGED ONE BIT, NATSU.
He he he
BUT THAT FOOLISH GIRL STILL INSISTS ON DOING THIS.
I'VE SAID THIS MANY TIMES,
NATSU
SFX: BANG
TRY EVERYTHING YOU CAN TO HELP HANA OUT?
WHY DON'T YOU...
AS I THOUGHT, EVERYONE...
IS WORRIED
ABOUT HANA...
I WAS ALREADY PREPARED
TO BECOME A YUUJO...

KAWANUMA
THIS GUY IS ACTUALLY THE CUSTOMER
NO ONE WOULD COMPLAIN IF I CAME TO LOOK FOR YOU AS A CUSTOMER, RIGHT?
SOMETHING AS TRIVIAL AS FAKING AN IDENTITY IS TRULY A PIECE OF CAKE.
I AM...
THE TYPE OF PERSON THAT WOULD ABSOLUTELY NOT LET GO OF SOMETHING THAT I DIDN'T OBTAIN
I DID NOT THINK THAT
BUT...
...LIM
WHY WOULD YOU..
BE HERE IN YOSHIWARA...?
THIS IS REALLY BAD.
...UN
DON'T BE AFRAID.
SINCE I QUITE LIKE YOU...
IF YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF
THEN YOU WON'T SUFFER.
SFX: GRABS

HANA
DISGUSTING
SFX GIKA
WHAT SHOULD I DO ...?
THIS IS WHAT I DECIDED
WHAT AM I THINKING?
NO
UN
I MUSTN'T REGRET...
"THINK THAT THIS IS OKAY?"
"DO YOU REALLY?"
NO!!
!?
THIS KIND OF THING ...

Friendship Scars
HEY, HEY...!
IF YOU'RE LIKE THIS ON THE FIRST NIGHT,
IT'S ALREADY LIKE THIS...
SO THERE'S OBVIOUSLY NO WAY OF ESCAPING!
STOP KICKING UP A FUSS!
...DISGUSTING
DON'T TOUCH ME!
THEN THERE IS NO WAY YOU'LL BECOME A YUUJO.

...EH?
REN... NOSUKE...?
ONEE-CHAN ARRANGED A BOAT WAITING AT YAMAYAKAWA
KOMICHI-SAMA AND NATSU ARE GUARDING THE GATE.
Pretty, please
Since it's Akane's request
This is our great leader, Ichi.
Ah, I have some things I need to look for
Oh
EVERY-THING IS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN
PLA... PLAN AS IN?
A PLAN DEVISED FOR AN ESCAPE.
AN ESCAPE FOR ME AND YOU.
JUST NOW WAS IT A DREAM...?
KEJI,
STUFF THIS GUY INSIDE A CABINET OR SOMETHING.
ROGER.
SFX TIES UP
Hmm?
Uraan
KE... KEJI IS HERE AS WELL?
WHY...?
HN?
I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE, YOU KNOW?
SHH...
QUIET.
HOW...?

WAH?!
RENNO-SUKE AND!? WHY!?
YOU DON'T WANT TO?
ES
CAPE
?
NO.. IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T WANT TO..
BUT... WHY?
TWO... TWO PEOPLE RUNNING AWAY TOGETHER...
IT FEELS... ALMOST LIKE
—WHY?
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THE REASON...
Friendship Scars
AFTER WE SUCCESS-FULLY ESCAPED
TO A PLACE WITH ONLY THE TWO OF US...
I WILL SURELY TELL YOU THEN.

LAND-LORD,
IF IT'S NOW, THEN IT SHOULD BE GOOD TO GO!
BLUSHES
.....OKAY
IS THIS FOR REAL...?
ALRIGHT.
YOU CAN GO DOWN FIRST.
OKAY.
I'M GOING WITH RENNO-SUKE...?
HANA, LET'S GO!
SFX: RUMBLE
!?

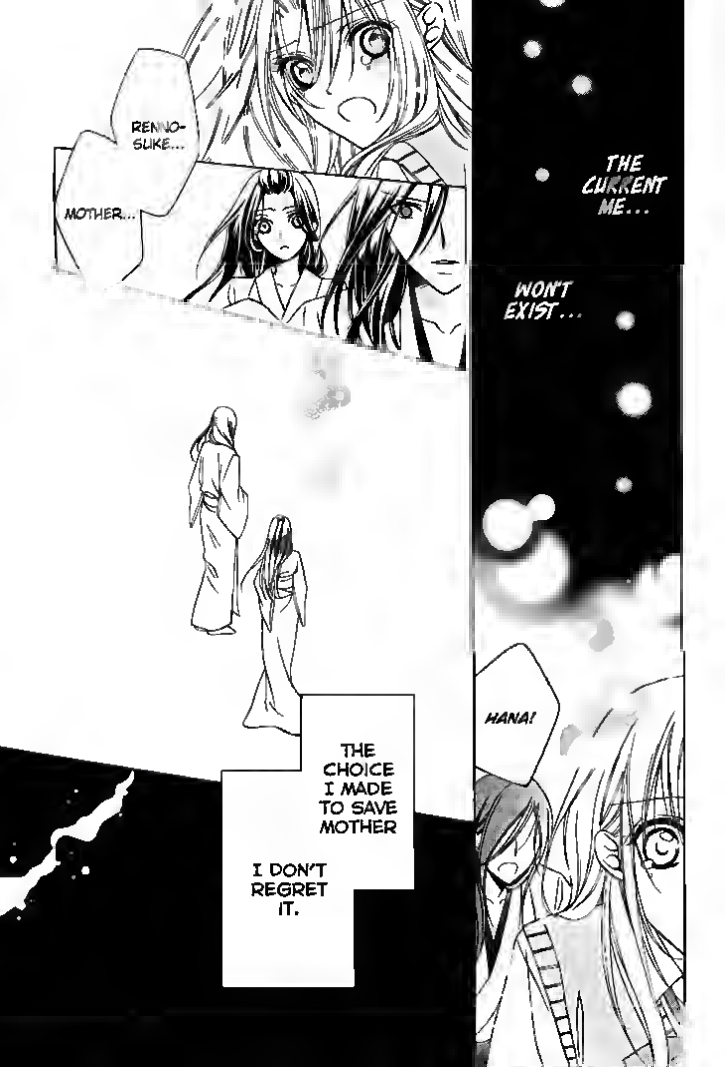
KYAA!!
THIS IS
RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
AN EARTH-QUAKE
HANA!
SFX: SLAM
THE FLOOR...
SFX: RATTLE
!!
SFX: SHAKE
CLATTER CLATTER
AH...
SORRY!
SORRY!
AGAIN
EVERY-THING HURTS...
IT'S DIFFI-CULT TO BREATHE

BURNING
SHOCK
SUDDENLY MY MOTHER'S VOICE...
FLASHED ACROSS MY MIND
WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED...?
OUCH IT HURTS
I... JUST HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR?...
IT'S COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY FLAMES
cough
RENNO-SUKE AND KEJI...?
THIS IS THE COURTYARD?
Friendship Scans
SORRY!
SORRY!
!?

TAKITSUKI-SAN AND THE BABY!
OVER THERE IS
SFX: BADUMP
NO, IT'S NOT
MOTHER'S... VOICE.
THAT IS
I KNOW
WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE
SFX: RUMBLE
MOTHER!!
MO-THER
I HOPE THAT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO LIVE ON
NO MATTER WHAT
IF YOU'RE IN THIS WELL, THEN YOU WON'T BE BURNT BY THE FIRE

WA
I'M SORRY
FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO PROTECT YOU.
BUT
WA
TAKITSUKI-SAN...
THAT BABY IS ME.
BECAUSE MY MOTHER SAVED ME, I CAME TO THE FUTURE THROUGH THIS WELL.
DON'T....
!?
HURRY UP AND LEAVE THIS PLACE!!
!? HANA...?
IF I RETURN NOW, THEN MOTHER WILL DIE!!
NO!
BUT, THERE'S NOWHERE ELSE TO GO!
AS LONG AS THIS CHILD CAN BE SAVED PUTTING HER IN THE WELL IS FOR THE BEST...

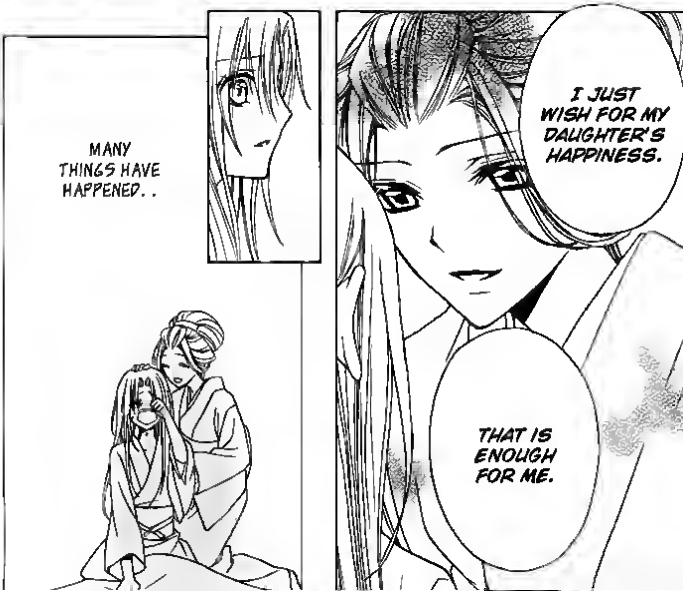
SUU
スゥ
HANA!
IT'S GOOD THAT YOU'RE ALRIGHT!
RENNO-SUKE!!
EH?
!?
I WAS PLACED IN THE WELL
AND SENT TO THE FUTURE BY AN INEX-PLICABLE POWER.
IF THAT BABY ISN'T IN THE WELL THEN...
BECOMING TRANSPAR-ENT AGAIN...?
WHY IS MY BODY
AH...
SO


RENNO-SUKE...
MOTHER...
THE CURRENT ME...
WON'T EXIST...
HANA!
THE CHOICE I MADE TO SAVE MOTHER
I DON'T REGRET IT.

I WANT...
Friendship Scans
.....
.....?
TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH RENNO-SUKE... JUST THIS ONE THING.
..EH?
THIS PLACE IS
HANA!
MO-MO-THER...? TASUKI-SAN...?
?
YOU'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR THREE DAYS. ALREADY!
IT'S REALLY FORTUNA
!?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?

THREE... THREE DAYS...?
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?
IF THE BABY WASN'T PUT IN THE WELL
AND DIDN'T GO TO THE FUTURE, THEN I...
AT THAT TIME...
I SHOULD HAVE DISAPPEARED
TAKITSUKI-SAN ABOUT THAT...
HOW DID THINGS TURN OUT THIS WAY...?
WHERE'S THE BABY...?
THAT CHILD...
SHOULD BE FAR AWAY IN THE FUTURE, RIGHT NOW
TOGETHER WITH THAT GENTLE GRANDPA...
!?
COULD IT BE THAT YOU PUT THE BABY IN THE WELL!?
WHY!? THAT CHILD IS IMPORTANT TO YOU, TAKITSUKI SAN...
YES, THAT'S TRUE...

BUT THAT CHILD LIVED QUITE HAPPILY, RIGHT?
THE HANA RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES IS THE PROOF.


I JUST WISH FOR MY DAUGHTER'S HAPPINESS.
THAT IS ENOUGH FOR ME.
MANY THINGS HAVE HAPPENED. .

WAH!
KRAKS
MY MIND IS OVERFLOWING WITH THINGS THAT HAVE YET TO BE SORTED
BUT THERE'S ONE THING I KNOW.
IT'S GOOD...
THAT YOU'RE STILL HERE.
AND THAT IS...THAT IT IS RIGHT FOR ME TO BE HERE
RENNO-SUKE

...THEN LET'S SIMPLY WORK TOGETHER HERE...
AND SET UP A NEW BUSINESS?
YOSHI-WARA IS IN A RUINED STATE...
IT'LL TAKE A GOOD AMOUNT OF TIME FOR IT TO RECOVER...
RIGHT.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW..?
IT APPEARS THAT MITSUY-ABAYA HAS CLOSED
TRYING TO RESTORE SHIROMAT-SUYA IN THIS STATE IS VERY DIFFICULT...
Oh, yeah.
If it's now the necessary land can easily be attained as well. Then we can set up a Kyo mansion around it with your family business in it!! Yes!!
THAT'S NOT A BAD A IDEA...
SPARKLE
After-wards this and then next...
GREAT, I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU.
IT'S TIME FOR US TO GO
SINCE THAT'S DECIDED...
Thank you for reading Please look forward to Otonaka-sensei's new work.
YEAH.
おわり ★ The END